



To Whom it May Concern:

I have known Jacob for several years but had not worked with him directly until the spring of 2022. Jacob was a Senior at Freedom High School in an adjacent county and had a Senior Capstone project where he could do an internship. Since he was going to be attending James Madison University as a Music Education Major, interning with me (A High School Band Director) seemed a natural fit.

During the month he was an intern, Jacob showed a wonderful aptitude for the job as well tremendous initiative and a work ethic that I have seldom seen from a student his age. Even though he was still in High School, I had him running small sectionals and larger rehearsals, as well as taking care of logistical consideration (itinerary for graduation, slide shows to accompany our final concert to name a few). He handled all of these responsibilities with eagerness, humility, and when needed a sense of humor. Unfortunately, I got COVID the week of the concert, but all that meant for him was to step up his level of involvement to make sure that concert could go on without major interruptions.

I know that his studies at James Madison University have gone very well—he is an amazing musician and an exceptional student. This summer, I have hired him to come back to Westfield High School and help me teach the marching band during our band camp—which takes place just before he must head back to Harrisonburg and take part in his own camp. I am excited to see him work again, and I know he will bring a lot as part of our instructional team. It is my pleasure to write this reference for Jacob Taylor. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Alan P. Johnson  
Director of Bands  
Westfield High School  
[APJohnson@fcps.edu](mailto:APJohnson@fcps.edu)  
703.488.6436